

# AGENDA OF THE SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING – ELECTION OF THE MAYOR AND DEPUTY MAYOR

To be held on Monday 25 November 2024 at 6:00PM Mayor & Deputy Mayor election

This Council Meeting will be held at Preston City Hall, Gower Street, Preston.

This meeting is scheduled to be held 'wholly in person' and will be open to the public.

This meeting will also be livestreamed and may be accessed from Councils website www.darebin.vic.gov.au

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL OWNERS AND ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER COMMUNITIES IN DAREBIN

Darebin City Council acknowledges the Wurundjeri Woi-Wurrung people as the Traditional Owners and custodians of the land we now call Darebin and pays respect to their Elders, past, present and emerging.

Council pays respect to all other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities in Darebin.

Council recognises, and pays tribute to, the diverse culture, resilience and heritage of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

We acknowledge the leadership of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and the right to selfdetermination in the spirit of mutual understanding and respect.

#### **English**

These are the Minutes for the Council Meeting. For assistance with any of the items in the minutes, please telephone 8470 8888.

#### **Arabic**

هذه هي محاضر اجتماع المجلس. للحصول على المساعدة في أي من البنود في المحاضر ، يرجى الاتصال بالهاتف 8888 8470.

#### Chinese

这些是市议会会议纪要。如需协助了解任何纪要项目,请致电8470 8888。

#### Greek

Αυτά είναι τα Πρακτικά της συνεδρίασης του Δημοτικού Συμβουλίου. Για βοήθεια με οποιαδήποτε θέματα στα πρακτικά, παρακαλείστε να καλέσετε το 8470 8888.

#### Hindi

ये काउंसिल की बैठक का सारांश है। सारांश के किसी भी आइटम में सहायता के लिए, कृपया 8470 8888 पर टेलीफोन करें।

#### Italian

Questo è il verbale della riunione del Comune. Per assistenza con qualsiasi punto del verbale, si prega di chiamare il numero 8470 8888.

#### Macedonian

Ова е Записникот од состанокот на Општинскиот одбор. За помош во врска со која и да било точка од записникот, ве молиме телефонирајте на 8470 8888.

#### Nepali

यी परिषद्को बैठकका माइन्युटहरू हुन्। माइन्युटका कुनै पनि वस्तुसम्बन्धी सहायताका लागि कृपया 8470 8888 मा कल गर्नुहोस्।

#### Punjabi

ਇਹ ਕੈਂਸਲ ਦੀ ਮੀਟਿੰਗ ਵਾਸਤੇ ਸੰਖੇਪ ਸਾਰਾਂਸ਼ ਹੈ। ਸੰਖੇਪ ਸਾਰਾਂਸ਼ ਵਿਚਲੀਆਂ ਕਿਸੇ ਵੀ ਆਈਟਮਾਂ ਸੰਬੰਧੀ ਸਹਾਇਤਾ ਵਾਸਤੇ, ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ 8470 8888 ਨੂੰ ਟੈਲੀਫ਼ੋਨ ਕਰੋ।

#### Somali

Kuwaani waa qodobadii lagaga wada hadlay Fadhiga Golaha. Caawimada mid kasta oo ka mid ah qodobada laga wada hadlay, fadlan la xiriir 8470 8888.

#### **Spanish**

Estas son las Actas de la Reunión del Concejo. Para recibir ayuda acerca de algún tema de las actas, llame al teléfono 8470 8888.

#### Urdu

یہ کاؤنسل کی میٹنگ کا ایجنڈا ہے۔ایجنڈے کے کسی بھی حصے کے بارے میں مدد کے لیے براہ مہربانی 8888 8470 پر فون کریں۔

#### Vietnamese

Đây là những Biên bản Họp Hội đồng Thành phố. Muốn có người trợ giúp mình về bất kỳ mục nào trong biên bản họp, xin quý vị gọi điện thoại số 8470 8888.

## **Table of Contents**

Item Nun	n nber	P.	Page Number
1.	MEN	MBERSHIP	1
2.	APC	DLOGIES	1
3.	DIS	CLOSURES OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST	1
4.	CON	NSIDERATION OF REPORTS	2
	4.1	TERM OF OFFICE OF THE MAYOR 2024/2025	2
	4.2	MAYORAL ELECTION 2024/2025	3
	4.3	MAINTENANCE OF ROLE OF DEPUTY MAYOR 2024/2025	4
	4.4	DEPUTY MAYORAL ELECTION 2024/2025	5
	4.5	COUNCILLOR ADDRESSES	6
	4.6	2025 MEETING SCHEDULE	7
	4.7	SIGNED OATHS AND AFFIRMATIONS OF OFFICE AND MODEL COD	
5.	URC	GENT BUSINESS	26
6.	CON	NSIDERATION OF REPORTS CONSIDERED CONFIDENTIAL	26
7.	CLC	OSE OF MEETING	26

## **Agenda**

#### 1. MEMBERSHIP

- Cr. Matt Arturi
- Cr. Connie Boglis OAM
- Cr. Emily Dimitriadis
- Cr. Gaetano Greco
- Cr. Ruth Jelley
- Cr. Julie O'Brien
- Cr. Kristine Olaris OAM
- Cr. Alexandra Sangster
- Cr. Vasilios Tsalkos
- 2. APOLOGIES
- 3. DISCLOSURES OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

#### 4. CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS

4.1 TERM OF OFFICE OF THE MAYOR 2024/2025

Author: Coordinator Governance Services

**Reviewed By:** Acting General Manager Customer & Corporate

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The role of the Mayor is to act as leader of the Council, providing guidance and supporting good working relationships between the Councillors, and working with the Chief Executive Officer to ensure positive outcomes are delivered.

Section 18 of the *Local Government Act 2020* (Act) describes the role and functions of the Mayor, including chairing Council Meetings, acting as principal spokesperson for the Council, providing guidance to Councillors about what is expected of a Councillor, supporting good working relations between Councillors and carrying out civic and ceremonial duties.

Section 25(1) of the Act provides that at a Council meeting that is open to the public, the Councillors must elect a Councillor to be the Mayor of the Council.

Further, Section 26 of the Act provides that before the election of the Mayor, Council must determine by resolution, whether the Mayor is to be elected for a 1 year or a 2-year term.

#### Recommendation

That Council resolves p	oursuant to section	26(3) of the	Local Government	Act 2020 to elect
the Mayor for a term of	year/s.			

#### **BACKGROUND / KEY INFORMATION**

Section 25 (1) of the Act provides that at a Council meeting that is open to the public, the Councillors must elect a Councillor to be the Mayor of the Council.

Further, Section 26 of the Act provides that before the election of the Mayor, Council must determine by resolution whether the Mayor is to be elected for a 1 year or a 2 year term.

#### **Attachments**

Nil

Item 4.1 Page 2

4.2 MAYORAL ELECTION 2024/2025

**Author:** Coordinator Governance Services

**Reviewed By:** Acting General Manager Customer & Corporate

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The election of the Mayor will be conducted in accordance with the *Local Government Act* 2020 (the Act) and Council's Governance Rules.

Section 25 of the Act prescribes that at a Council meeting that is open to the public, Councillors must elect a Councillor to be the Mayor of the Council. Any Councillor is eligible for election or re-election to the office of Mayor. The Mayor must be elected by an absolute majority of the Councillors.

Further, Council's Governance Rules 2020 prescribe the procedure for the election of Mayor.

#### Recommendation

That Council conduct an election for the position of Mayor for 2024/2025.

#### **BACKGROUND / KEY INFORMATION**

The election of the Mayor will be conducted in accordance with the *Local Government Act* 2020 (the Act) and Council's Governance Rules.

#### Taking of Chair and ceremonial Mayoral Speech

After the election of the Mayor, the Mayor will take the chair in accordance with Section 18 of the Act.

The newly elected Mayor may make a ceremonial speech. Pursuant to rule 17.2 of the Governance Rules:

- 1. the ceremonial speech is limited to the purpose of outlining priorities for the year ahead based on the adopted Council Plan; and,
- 2. the ceremonial speech must not exceed five (5) minutes.

#### **Attachments**

Nil

Item 4.2 Page 3

4.3 MAINTENANCE OF ROLE OF DEPUTY MAYOR 2024/2025

Author: Coordinator Governance Services

**Reviewed By:** Acting General Manager Customer & Corporate

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Pursuant to Section 20A of the *Local Government Act 2020* (the Act), a Council may establish an office of Deputy Mayor.

The Deputy Mayor role was first established by Council after the 2020 Local Government elections.

Section 21 of the Act defines that the Deputy Mayor must perform the role of the Mayor and may exercise any of the powers of the Mayor if, the Mayor is unable for any reason to attend a Council meeting or part of a Council meeting, or the Mayor is incapable of performing the duties of the office of Mayor for any reason, including illness or the office of Mayor is vacant.

As per Council's Governance Rules, at the Meeting at which the Mayor is to be elected, Council may resolve to establish the position of Deputy Mayor and elect a Councillor to the position of Deputy Mayor. Further the term of a Deputy Mayor is to be identical to the term of the Mayor as resolved by Council.

#### Recommendation

**That** Council, in accordance with Section 20A of the *Local Government Act 2020* and the Governance Rules 2020, maintain the position of Deputy Mayor for a term to coincide with the term of the Mayor for the 2024/25 council year.

#### **Attachments**

Nil

Item 4.3 Page 4

4.4 DEPUTY MAYORAL ELECTION 2024/2025

Author: Coordinator Governance Services

**Reviewed By:** Acting General Manager Customer & Corporate

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The election of Deputy Mayor will be conducted pursuant to Section 27 of the *Local Government Act 2020* (the Act) and Council's Governance Rules.

The Mayor will conduct the election of Deputy Mayor. The term of a Deputy Mayor is to be identical to the term of the Mayor, as resolved by Council.

#### Recommendation

That Council conduct an election for the position of Deputy Mayor for a term of _	
year/s.	

#### **BACKGROUND / KEY INFORMATION**

The election of the Deputy Mayor will be conducted in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2020* and the Council's Governance Rules.

The newly elected Deputy Mayor may make a 2 minute speech.

#### **Attachments**

Nil

Item 4.4 Page 5

4.5 COUNCILLOR ADDRESSES

**Author:** Coordinator Governance Services

**Reviewed By:** Acting General Manager Customer & Corporate

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Councillors will each be invited to make a two-minute response to the Mayor and Deputy Mayor's address.

#### **Attachments**

Nil

Item 4.5 Page 6

4.6 2025 MEETING SCHEDULE

**Author:** Coordinator Governance Services

**Reviewed By:** Acting General Manager Customer & Corporate

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

In accordance with the Council's Governance Rules 2020, Council must fix the date, time and place of all Council meetings. The schedule of Council Meetings must be published in publications that are distributed throughout the municipality (including Council publications) and on Council's website at least once each year or with such greater frequency as the Chief Executive Officer determines.

Meeting dates for the remainder of 2024 and for 2025 are required to be resolved by Council.

#### Officer Recommendation

#### That:

- (1) Ordinary meetings of the Council be held in the Council Chamber at Darebin Civic Centre (or other venue as determined) at 6.00 pm on:
  - Monday 16 December 2024
  - Monday 24 February 2025
  - Monday 24 March 2025
  - Monday 28 April 2025
  - Monday 26 May 2025
  - Monday 23 June 2025
  - Monday 28 July 2025
  - Monday 25 August 2025
  - Monday 22 September 2025
  - Monday 27 October 2025
  - Monday 24 November 2025
  - Monday 15 December 2025
- (2) A special meeting to elect the Mayor and Deputy Mayor be held at the Preston City Hall at 6.00 pm on Thursday 20 November 2025.
- (3) Meetings of the Planning Committee be held in the Council Chamber at Darebin Civic Centre at 6.30 pm on
  - Monday 9 December 2024
  - Monday 10 February 2025
  - Tuesday 11 March 2025
  - Monday 14 April 2025

Item 4.6 Page 7

- Monday 12 May 2025
- Monday 16 June 2025
- Monday 14 July 2025
- Monday 11 August 2025
- Monday 8 September 2025
- Monday 13 October 2025
- Monday 10 November 2025
- Monday 8 December 2025
- (4) Meetings of the Hearing of Submissions Committee be scheduled as required and that public notice of those meetings be given in accordance with relevant provisions.
- (5) Unless otherwise specified, Council, Planning and Hearing of Submissions Committee meetings will be as hybrid meetings, which provides for attendance both in person and virtually.
- (6) Council notes that the date, time and location of a Council Meeting may be altered by Council resolution, or the Chief Executive Officer, may change the date, time and location of, or cancel, any Meeting which has been fixed and must provide notice of the change to the public.

#### **BACKGROUND / KEY INFORMATION**

The setting of Ordinary Council and Planning Committee meetings for the remainder of 2024 and all of 2025 requires.

The schedule has been developed, based on the following approach:

- One Ordinary Council Meeting on the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday\* each month
- One Planning Committee on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday\* each
- Councillor Briefings are not required to be formally set, but to enable Councillors to plan their time, briefings will be scheduled on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday\* of each month with an additional briefing on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday\* of each month prior to the Planning Committee meeting.
- Where a month has 5 weeks (i.e. March, June, September and December) the intention is to not schedule Briefings and enable Councillors to consider these 'free weeks', unless by agreement with the Mayor in consultation with Councillors.
- Special Council Meetings and Hearing of Submissions Committee meetings will be scheduled on an as-needs basis in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 2020 and Council's Governance Rules 2020.
- \* Meetings and briefings will be held on Mondays unless they fall on a public holiday, in which case they will move to Tuesday.

It is proposed to convene all Council and Planning Meetings in the Council Chamber as hybrid meetings which will allow participants to attend in person or virtually. The Chief Executive Officer has discretion to schedule Special Council Meetings as virtual meetings or change the method of conduct, when and if required.

Item 4.6 Page 8

#### **IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS**

The Meeting dates will be published on Council's website as well as in the Darebin Community News (hard copy newsletter delivered to households across the municipality). Social media posts will also include reference to the meeting dates.

#### **Attachments**

Nil

#### **DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST**

Section 130 of the *Local Government Act 2020* requires members of Council staff and persons engaged under contract to provide advice to Council to disclose any conflicts of interest in a matter to which the advice relates.

The Officer reviewing this report, having made enquiries with relevant members of staff, reports that no disclosable interests have been raised in relation to this report.

Item 4.6 Page 9

4.7 SIGNED OATHS AND AFFIRMATIONS OF OFFICE AND

MODEL CODE OF CONDUCT

**Author:** Coordinator Governance Services

**Reviewed By:** Acting General Manager Customer & Corporate

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

In accordance with section 30(2) of the Local Government Act 2020 (the Act):

The oath or affirmation of office must be—

(a)administered by the Chief Executive Officer; and

(b)dated and signed before the Chief Executive Officer; and

(c)recorded in the minutes of the Council, whether or not the oath or affirmation was taken at a Council meeting.

Further pursuant to section 139 of the Act, Councillors are required to observe the Model Code of Conduct which is prescribed in Schedule 1 to the Local Government (Governances and Integrity) Regulations 2024. Councils are also required to publish the Model Code of Conduct on their Internet site pursuant to Section 139(4) of the Act.

#### Recommendation

**That** Council notes the signed:

- (a) Oaths and Affirmations of Office (Appendix A)
- (b) Model Code of Conduct (Appendix B).

#### **BACKGROUND / KEY INFORMATION**

All councillors have undertaken an Oath or Affirmation of Office and signed the Model Code of Conduct as required under the provisions of the Act.

#### **Attachments**

- Signed Oaths and Affirmtions of Office (Appendix A) 4 <sup>12</sup>
- Signed Model Code of Conduct (Appendix B) J.

Item 4.7 Page 10



#### **OATH OF OFFICE**

"I swear (or promise) by Almighty God (or name of God recognised by religion) that

I, Matt Arturi, will undertake the duties of the office of Councillor in the best interests of the municipal community.

I will abide by the Model Councillor Code of Conduct and uphold the standards of conduct set out in the Model Councillor Code of Conduct.

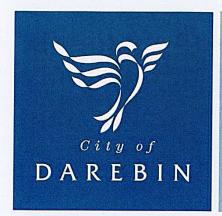
I will faithfully and impartially carry out and exercise the functions, powers, authorities and discretions vested in me under the *Local Government Act* 2020 or any other Act to the best of my skill and judgment."

Matt Artur

Sworn at Preston in the State of Victoria by the abovenamed this thirteenth day of November 2024 before me.

Michael Tudball

Interim Chief Executive Officer



#### **OATH OF OFFICE**

"I swear (or promise) by Almighty God (or name of God recognised by religion) that

I, **Connie Boglis**, will undertake the duties of the office of Councillor in the best interests of the municipal community.

"I will abide by the Model Councillor Code of Conduct and uphold the standards of conduct set out in the Model Councillor Code of Conduct.

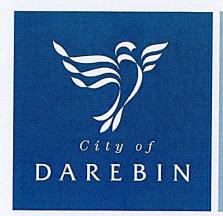
I will faithfully and impartially carry out and exercise the functions, powers, authorities and discretions vested in me under the Local Government Act 2020 or any other Act to the best of my skill and judgment."

Connie Boglis

Sworn at Preston in the State of Victoria by the abovenamed this thirteenth day of November 2024 before me.

Michael Tudball

Interim Chief Executive Officer



#### **AFFIRMATION OF OFFICE**

I do solemnly and sincerely declare and affirm that -

"I, **Emily Dimitriadis**, will undertake the duties of the office of Councillor in the best interests of the municipal community.

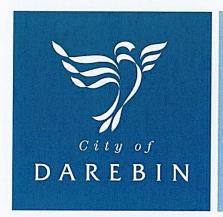
I will abide by the Model Councillor Code of Conduct and uphold the standards of conduct set out in the Model Councillor Code of Conduct.

I will faithfully and impartially carry out and exercise the functions, powers, authorities and discretions vested in me under the *Local Government Act* 2020 or any other Act to the best of my skill and judgment."

**Emily Dimitriadis** 

Sworn at Preston in the State of Victoria by the abovenamed this thirteenth day of November 2024 before me.

Michael Tudball
Interim Chief Executive Officer



#### **AFFIRMATION OF OFFICE**

I do solemnly and sincerely declare and affirm that -

"I, Gaetano Greco, will undertake the duties of the office of Councillor in the best interests of the municipal community.

I will abide by the Model Councillor Code of Conduct and uphold the standards of conduct set out in the Model Councillor Code of Conduct.

I will faithfully and impartially carry out and exercise the functions, powers, authorities and discretions vested in me under the *Local Government Act* 2020 or any other Act to the best of my skill and judgment."

**Gaetano Greco** 

Sworn at Preston in the State of Victoria by the abovenamed this

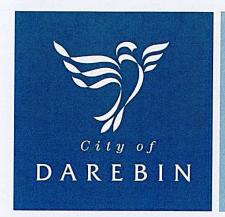
184

\_\_ day of November 2024

before me.

Michael Tudball

Interim Chief Executive Officer



#### **AFFIRMATION OF OFFICE**

I do solemnly and sincerely declare and affirm that -

"I, **Ruth Jelley**, will undertake the duties of the office of Councillor in the best interests of the municipal community.

I will abide by the Model Councillor Code of Conduct and uphold the standards of conduct set out in the Model Councillor Code of Conduct.

I will faithfully and impartially carry out and exercise the functions, powers, authorities and discretions vested in me under the *Local Government Act* 2020 or any other Act to the best of my skill and judgment."

Ruth Jelle

Sworn at Preston in the State of Victoria by the abovenamed this thirteenth day of November 2024 before me.

Michael Tudball
Interim Chief Executive Officer

Item 4.7 Appendix A



#### **AFFIRMATION OF OFFICE**

I do solemnly and sincerely declare and affirm that -

"I, **Julie O'Brien**, will undertake the duties of the office of Councillor in the best interests of the municipal community.

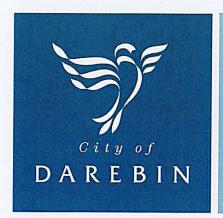
I will abide by the Model Councillor Code of Conduct and uphold the standards of conduct set out in the Model Councillor Code of Conduct.

I will faithfully and impartially carry out and exercise the functions, powers, authorities and discretions vested in me under the *Local Government Act* 2020 or any other Act to the best of my skill and judgment."

ulje O'Brien

Sworn at Preston in the State of Victoria by the abovenamed this thirteenth day of November 2024 before me.

Michael Tudball
Interim Chief Executive Officer



#### **AFFIRMATION OF OFFICE**

"I solemnly and sincerely declare and affirm that -

I, **Kristine Olaris**, will undertake the duties of the office of Councillor in the best interests of the municipal community.

I will abide by the Model Councillor Code of Conduct and uphold the standards of conduct set out in the Model Councillor Code of Conduct.

I will faithfully and impartially carry out and exercise the functions, powers, authorities and discretions vested in me under the *Local Government Act* 2020 or any other Act to the best of my skill and judgment."

**Kristine Olaris** 

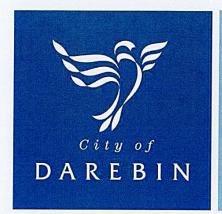
Sworn at Preston in the State of Victoria by the abovenamed this

12+h \_ day of November 2024

before me.

Michael Tudball

Interim Chief Executive Officer



#### **OATH OF OFFICE**

"I swear (or promise) by Almighty God (or name of God recognised by religion) that

I, **Alexandra Sangster**, will undertake the duties of the office of Councillor in the best interests of the municipal community.

"I will abide by the Model Councillor Code of Conduct and uphold the standards of conduct set out in the Model Councillor Code of Conduct.

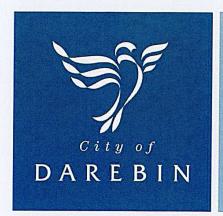
I will faithfully and impartially carry out and exercise the functions, powers, authorities and discretions vested in me under the Local Government Act 2020 or any other Act to the best of my skill and judgment."

Alexandra Sangster

Sworn at Preston in the State of Victoria by the abovenamed this fourteenth day of November 2024 before me.

Michael Tudball

Interim Chief Executive Officer



#### OATH OF OFFICE

"I swear (or promise) by Almighty God (or name of God recognised by religion) that

I, Vasilios Tsalkos, will undertake the duties of the office of Councillor in the best interests of the municipal community.

"I will abide by the Model Councillor Code of Conduct and uphold the standards of conduct set out in the Model Councillor Code of Conduct.

I will faithfully and impartially carry out and exercise the functions, powers, authorities and discretions vested in me under the Local Government Act 2020 or any other Act to the best of my skill and judgment."

**Vasilios Tsalkos** 

Sworn at Preston in the State of Victoria by the abovenamed this thirteenth day of November 2024 before me.

Michael Tudball
Interim Chief Executive Officer



## Model Councillor Code of Conduct

Local Government (Governance and Integrity) Amendment Regulations 2024

Item 4.7 Appendix B Page 20

Item 4.7 Appendix B Page 21

#### **Model Councillor Code of Conduct**

Schedule 1 of the Local Government (Governance and Integrity) Amendment Regulations 2024

#### **Definitions**

In this Schedule-

**discrimination** means unfair or unfavourable treatment of a person on the grounds of an attribute specified in section 6 of the **Equal Opportunity Act 2010**.

#### Standards of Conduct

#### 1. Performing the role of a Councillor

A Councillor must do everything reasonably necessary to ensure that they perform the role of a Councillor effectively and responsibly, including by—

- (a) representing the interests of the municipal community by considering and being responsive to the diversity of interests and needs of the municipal community; and
- (b) being fit to perform the role of a Councillor when acting in that capacity or purporting to act in that capacity; and
- (c) diligently using Council processes to become informed about matters which are subject to Council decisions; and
- (d) not performing or purporting to perform any responsibilities or functions of the Chief Executive Officer; and
- (e) acknowledging and supporting the Mayor in the performance of the role of the Mayor, including by—
  - respecting and complying with a ruling of the Mayor as the chair of Council meetings (unless dissenting from the ruling in accordance with the Council's Governance Rules); and
  - (ii) refraining from making public comment, including to the media, that could reasonably be perceived to be an official comment on behalf of the Council where the Councillor has not been authorised by the Mayor to make such a comment.

#### 2. Behaviours

- (1) A Councillor must treat others, including other Councillors, members of Council staff and members of the public, with dignity, fairness, objectivity, courtesy and respect, including by—
  - (a) not engaging in demeaning, abusive, obscene or threatening behaviour, including where the behaviour is of a sexual nature; and
  - not engaging in behaviour that intentionally causes or perpetuates stigma, stereotyping, prejudice or aggression against a person or class of persons; and
  - (c) not engaging in discrimination or vilification; and

- (d) supporting the Council, when applying the Council's community engagement policy, to develop respectful relationships and partnerships with Traditional Owners, Aboriginal community controlled organisations and the Aboriginal community; and
- (e) supporting the Council in fulfilling its obligation under the Act or any other Act (including the **Gender Equality Act 2020**) to achieve and promote gender equality; and
- (f) ensuring their behaviours and interactions with children are in line with the Council's policies and procedures as a child safe organisation and obligations under the Child Wellbeing and Safety Act 2005 to the extent that they apply to Councillors.
- (2) A Councillor, as an individual at the workplace, must take reasonable care for their own health and safety and take reasonable care that their acts or omissions do not adversely affect the health and safety of other persons by—
  - (a) adhering to applicable systems and policies put in place by the Chief Executive Officer to manage risks to health and safety in the workplace; and
  - (b) complying, so far as the Councillor is reasonably able, with any reasonable instruction that is given by the Chief Executive Officer to manage risks to health and safety.
- (3) A Councillor must act in accordance with any policies, practices and protocols developed and implemented under section 46 of the Act that support arrangements for interactions between members of Council staff and Councillors.

#### 3. Good governance

A Councillor must comply with the following Council policies and procedures required for delivering good governance for the benefit and wellbeing of the municipal community—

- (a) the Council's expenses policy adopted and maintained under section 41 of the Act;
- (b) the Council's Governance Rules developed, adopted and kept in force by the Council under section 60 of the Act, including in relation to—
  - (i) conduct in Council meetings or meetings of delegated committees; and
  - (ii) requesting and approval of attendance at Council meetings and meetings of delegated committees by electronic means of communication; and
  - (iii) the Council's election period policy included in the Council's Governance Rules under section 69 of the Act, including in ensuring that Council resources are not used in a way that is intended to influence, or is likely to influence, voting at a general election or by-election;
- (c) the Council's Councillor gift policy adopted under section 138 of the Act;
- (d) any direction of the Minister given under section 175 of the Act.

#### 4. Integrity

- (1) A Councillor must act with integrity, exercise reasonable care and diligence and take reasonable steps to avoid any action which may diminish the public's trust and confidence in the integrity of local government, including by—
  - (a) ensuring that their behaviour does not bring discredit upon the Council; and

- (b) not deliberately misleading the Council or the public about any matter related to the performance of their public duties; and
- (c) not making Council information publicly available where public availability of the information would be contrary to the public interest.

#### Note

See the public transparency principles set out in section 58 of the Act.

(2) A Councillor must not, in their personal dealings with the Council (for example as a ratepayer, recipient of a Council service or planning applicant), expressly or impliedly request preferential treatment for themselves or a related person or entity.

#### 5. The Model Councillor Code of Conduct does not limit robust public debate

Nothing in the Model Councillor Code of Conduct is intended to limit, restrict or detract from robust public debate of issues in a democracy.

#### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

As Councillors, the following signatures, applied on 13 November 2024, represent our individual declaration that we will abide by the Model Councillor Code of Conduct.

COUNCILLOR	SIGNATURE		
KRISTINE OLARIS	Krotuellein		
Matt Arturi	Alli		
Connie Boglis OAM	Con Ing		
Emily Dinutradis			
Rull Telley	Restrate		
Julie offeren	folie O fried		
VASILIOS TSALKOS	Jasilies		
Alexander Sansler	Dalle.		
Gaetano GRECO	Sætember.		

- 5. URGENT BUSINESS
- 6. CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS CONSIDERED CONFIDENTIAL
- 7. CLOSE OF MEETING

#### CITY OF DAREBIN

274 Gower Street, Preston PO Box 91, Preston, Vic 3072 T 8470 8888 F 8470 8877 E mailbox@darebin.vic.gov.au darebin.vic.gov.au

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